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FOREIGN CROPS and MARKETS

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS
WASHINGTON, D. C.

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L A T E C A B L E S

Denmark preliminary 1941 crop estimates were reported as follows, with 1940 comparisons in parentheses: Wheat 7,018,000 bushels (6,955,000), rye 11,928,000 (10,714,000), barley 42,530,000 (53,234,000), oats 50,637,000 (62,448,000), potatoes 48,354,000 bushels (49,676,000).

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Thailand exportable surplus of rice for year ended December 1, 1942, from crop just being harvested unofficially placed at 3,800 million pounds compared with official estimate of 2,800 million pounds last year. Carry-over December 1, 1941, unofficially placed at 1,360 million pounds compared with small carry-over a year ago. Total supply available for export for year ending December 1, 1942, placed at 5,160 million pounds.

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GRAINS

EGYPTIAN WHEAT PRODUCTION ENCOURAGED . . .

In view of the short wheat crop harvested in Egypt this year, considerable attention has been given to the wheat situation by both the Egyptian and British Governments, according to information received in the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. To encourage increased production in 1942, it was announced on November 7 that the British Government had agreed to purchase all wheat grown in Egypt next year over and above domestic requirements, which are estimated at about 9 million ardebs (49.6 million bushels) at a price not less than the market equivalent of the price fixed for the purchase of 1941 wheat by the Egyptian Government. This followed shortly after the decision by the latter Government to pay a bounty to those farmers cultivating as much as 5 feddans (5.2 acres) for every feddan diverted from cotton to wheat, barley, or beans. The bounty was set at from 150 to 200 piasters per feddan ($6.00 to $8.00 per acre), depending upon the location of the land. It was considered by some that these steps came too late in the season to have much effect upon fall seedings for 1942, which began in October. Nevertheless, sowing usually continues through November, and some increase in acreage still appeared possible.

EGYPT: Acreage, average yield per acre, and production of wheat 1935-1941

Year	Acreage	Average yield per acre	Production
	1,000 acres	Bushels	1,000 bushels
1935	1,463	29.5	43,222
1936	1,464	31.2	45,700
1937	1,421	31.9	45,377
1938	1,470	31.2	45,935
1939	1,501	32.6	49,008
Average	1,464	31.3	45,848
1940	1,563	32.0	49,994
1941	1,561	26.6	41.529

Compiled from official statistics.

As early as June of this year, maximum prices were announced at which wheat and other agricultural products could be sold, in order to check increases in price. In September, a proclamation by the Military Government required the declaration of supplies in excess of family needs by every person having wheat in his possession, and the sale of at least part of any surplus to the Government became obligatory. Early in October Egyptian bakers were prohibited from making or putting on

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sale any bread except that prepared from flour containing 15 parts of rice flour to 100 parts of wheat flour of 90-percent purity. Certain restrictive regulations regarding the sale and handling of the mixed flour were also announced.

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TURKISH GRAIN PRODUCTION
CONSIDERABLY REDUCED . . .

Although reports concerning the 1941 grain crops of Turkey have been somewhat conflicting, it appears reasonably certain from unofficial estimates received in the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations that the total grain production was considerably smaller than that of 1940. The reduction is reported to have resulted largely from the unseasonably dry weather of May and unfavorable conditions about harvesting time. Corn alone showed a slight increase. Almost as much grain appears to have been produced this year as the average for 1935-1939, but rye and corn were the only individual crops that were larger.

TURKEY: Production of specified grains, 1935-1941

Year	Wheat	Rye	Barley	Oats	Corn
	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels
1935	92,640	8,508	62,992	15,983	17,965
1936	141,583	17,673	98,915	14,817	26,956
1937	132,996	13,331	104,609	15,438	21,301
1938	156,720	17,791	110,272	18,149	23,096
1939	154,475	16,118	105,392	19,559	25,032
Average	135,683	14,684	96,436	16,789	22,370
1940	150,831	19,015	103,570	16,328	29,841
1941	128,602	16,928	87,265	13,779	29,920

Compiled from Bulletins of the Banque Centrale and unofficial sources.

Surplus grain stocks for export from Turkey during 1941-42 are reported to be unavailable, and imports of wheat may be necessary if the full requirements of the country are filled. The compulsory mixing of barley with wheat flour has, however, been rescinded, and the use of whole-wheat flour is obligatory except in certain exceptional cases. The Government continues to support prices, but at the same time an effort is made to control the rapid rise of retail prices and to prevent speculation.

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CUBAN RICE IMPORTS
BELOW LAST SEASON . . .

Rice imports into Cuba during October amounted to 26,800,000 pounds, or only about 60 percent of the quantity imported during the corresponding month last year. Total rice imports for the 10 months January-October, are about 28 million pounds smaller than for the same period in 1940. Higher prices this year, it is believed, may be causing a slight decrease in consumption and, furthermore, stocks are somewhat below a year ago. Rice from the United States continues to dominate Cuban imports, representing 93 percent of the total for the first 10 months of this year as compared with 66 percent for the same period a year ago.

Purchases of United States rice during recent weeks have been at a much higher level than in the early fall. During the first week in December, sales of 16 million pounds of United States rice were reported in Habana and about 500,000 pounds of Ecuadoran.

CUBA: Imports of rice, October 1941, with comparisons

Country of origin	October		January-October		January-December	
	1940	1941	1940	1941	1939	1940
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
United States	22,034	26,787	227,649	295,620	222,660	255,449
Orient	22,736	-	118,731	15,216	220,800	172,073
Egypt	-	-	728	-	601	650
Ecuador	-	-	-	6,850	-	-
Dominican Republic .	-	-	-	1,826	-	-
Others	-	-	-	-	76	1,028
Total	44,770	26,787	347,108	319,512	444,137	429,200

American Consulate, Habana.

Prior to the present war, Cuba, along with several other Western Hemisphere countries, depended upon the Orient for substantial quantities of rice. This percentage has been reduced until during the past year the Western Hemisphere has been approximately 95 percent self-sufficient. With the extension of the war into the Pacific the relatively small shipments of rice from the Orient will probably cease.

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COTTON - OTHER FIBERS

BELGIAN CONGO MAINTAINS COTTON PRODUCTION AT HIGH LEVEL . . .

The 1941 cotton crop in the Belgian Congo is estimated unofficially at 214,000 bales (of 478 pounds) compared with 213,000 bales last year and 180,000 bales in 1939, according to information received in the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. In recent years, about 5,000 bales of the total has been grown in the Belgian protectorate of Ruanda-Urundi, adjoining the Congo. Next year's crop is expected to about equal that of 1941, since there are no alternative crops sufficiently profitable to attract cotton growers, and the demand for labor in the copper and tin mines is too heavy to permit an expansion of cotton cultivation. It is estimated that 926,625 acres were planted in 1940 by 900,000 planters in the Belgian Congo and Ruanda-Urundi.

Before the war the Belgian Congo normally exported about two-thirds of its cotton crop each year, mostly to Belgium and the Netherlands, and consumed the remainder locally. Cotton exported to Belgium was principally 7/8 to 1 inch fiber of the Triumph Big Boll type, while that shipped to the Netherlands was Allen long staple of around 1-1/8 inches. These two varieties comprise the entire crop. Since 1940 the bulk of the local crop has been exported to the British Empire, mainly Great Britain and India. Considerable quantities of cotton linters have been exported to the Union of South Africa during the past 2 years, but shipments of cotton lint were negligible.

There are no import restrictions, export aids, barter or other special trade agreements affecting the movement of the Belgian Congo cotton with the exception of the Anglo-Belgian agreement of 1940, providing for the purchase by the United Kingdom of about 92,000 bales of Belgian Congo cotton during the 1940-41 season. An export tax was imposed on cotton exports, effective September 4, 1941. Stocks of cotton at Leopoldville and Matadi were estimated early in October at about 52,000 bales. Stocks in mills were estimated at only about 1,800 bales. Presumably the greater part of the 60,000 to 70,000 bales consumed annually in the Belgian Congo is accounted for by small local mills.

The average price paid currently to the Belgian Congo natives is 90 centimes per kilogram (0.93 cent per pound) for seed cotton. In normal times the Belgian Congo Government stabilizes the prices paid to the producers by means of a reserve and compensation fund maintained during periods of favorable prices by the deposits of buyers. The Congolese Cotton Commission, the organization that sponsors the system, contains representatives of all ginning and exporting companies.

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CUBAN HENEQUEN PRODUCTION ATTAINS IMPORTANCE

Normal trade in jute between the United States and India has been hampered by the abnormal conditions brought about by the present war. Manufacturers in this country, therefore, are turning their attention to more accessible sources of fibers suitable for jute substitutes. Some of the Latin American countries offer possibilities for potential supplies of fibers that may be used as a substitute for or combined with jute.

Cuba, like Brazil, has numerous fibrous plants, but the principal fiber is henequen. For the 5-year period ended December 31, 1940, Cuba's export statistics show that more than three-fourths of the total exports of henequen and sisal were destined for the United States. Although the United States usually takes the major portion of Cuba's total exports of henequen and sisal, Cuba accounted for only about 5 percent of the total quantity of these fibers imported into the United States during the 5-year period ended June 30, 1940.

CUBA: Exports of henequen and sisal fibers, by countries, 1936-1940 a/

Country of destination	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940
	Long tons	Long tons	Long tons	Long tons	Long tons
United States	5,611	6,677	3,651	7,698	11,421
Canada	4	53	-	-	-
Chile	49	139	50	210	349
Germany	3	3,401	4,467	2,136	-
Belgium	25	45	-	-	-
Others	27	43	3	b/	100
Total	5,719	10,358	8,171	10,044	11,870

Compiled from Comercio Exterior.

a/ In tons of 2,240 pounds. Authorities believe that practically all the fiber exported is henequen. b/ Less than 0.5 ton.

The first exports of henequen from Cuba were made in the late fall of 1923, all of which was sent to the United States, although the first mill for extracting the fiber was erected before 1900. There is no accurate figure for the acreage devoted to henequen and sisal cultivation, but recently the trade estimated that between 32,000 and 37,000 acres were in cultivation. The production of fiber is now placed at between 25 and 35 million pounds, roughly 11,000 - 16,000 long tons. Approximately two-thirds of the production is exported. The remainder is consumed in various forms by the domestic manufacturing industry, principally for binder twine and miscellaneous cordage. Sugar, Cuba's big industry, supplies the best market for products of the henequen fiber.

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From time to time, interest arises in the cultivation of other vegetable fibers in Cuba and some experiments have been attempted, but cultivation has not developed on a commercial basis. Cuba has no protective tariff on imports of raw fibers, and they enter duty free in competition with fibers locally produced. Certain manufactured articles of these various fibers are subject to duty. In the case of henequen and sisal fibers, although they may enter free of duty, there is a limitation placed on the quantity that may be imported. The quota is based on the quantities imported from the various countries during the year ended December 31, 1936. Numerous attempts have been made to produce jute, and substitutes for jute, in Cuba, but so far as is known, Cuba does not have a jute-manufacturing industry, although attempts have been made to create an interest in the establishment of such an industry.

The sugar, coffee, and tobacco industries, three of Cuba's export products, make use of jute in the form of bagging or burlap. The sugar industry alone requires, on the average, 16,000,000 - 18,000,000 bags annually and it has been estimated that 24,500 will be needed for the 1942 crop. An estimated annual consumption of 3,000,000 yards of burlap in the sugar industry and 6,000,000 yards by the tobacco industry supplements the use of jute in the form of bags for sugar and coffee.

If the supply of jute bags imported into Cuba should be reduced because of prevailing world conditions, there is a possibility that a smaller heavy cotton bag made to hold 100 pounds of raw sugar might be substituted for the larger jute bag, which holds 325 pounds of raw sugar.

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ARGENTINE COTTON PLANTING DELAYED . . .

Cotton planting in Argentina for the 1942 crop was delayed in September and October by lack of sufficient rain, and the destruction by frost of early plantings in the Chaco (the principal cotton region) made it necessary to replant in November. The 1940-41 crop, picked during February-April 1941, was the smallest since 1936-37 and amounted to only 232,000 bales (final official estimate just released) compared with 362,000 bales in 1939-40. Minimum prices fixed recently by the National Cotton Board for 1942 cotton delivered at Buenos Aires ranged from about 16.21 cents per pound for Grade A to 6.75 cents for Grade F. Argentine cotton exports in 1941 (January-October) amounted to 120,000 bales (mostly old crop cotton) against 101,000 for the corresponding period in 1940. Spain was the principal destination, accounting for 118,000 and 46,000 bales of the respective totals. Domestic mills require nearly 200,000 bales of cotton annually so that the export surplus from the 1940-41 crop can hardly exceed 30,000 bales. Exports to Japan and China in 1940-41 amounted to only 300 and 2,700 bales, respectively.

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FRUITS, VEGETABLES, AND NUTS

SPANISH ORANGES MAY MOVE TO GERMANY . . .

The 1941 orange crop in Spain is placed by the trade at 14,172,000 boxes (of 70 pounds) or about 30 percent below the 1940 production, according to information received by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Among the reasons for the short crop are: (a) shortage of fertilizers and neglect to the trees during the war in Spain (1936-1939); (b) cold weather early in 1941; and (c) some removal of trees recently to free the land for the production of cereals.

The Spanish Government completely controls the marketing of oranges in both domestic and foreign markets. The "Rama," which formerly controlled the orange industry, has been replaced by a new group named the "National Orange Syndicate." It is expected that around 6,300,000 boxes, will be consumed in Spain during the 1941-42 season, leaving approximately 8,000,000 boxes available for export. This compares with exports of 10,618,000 boxes in the 1940-41 season. It is reported that the Germans have reached an agreement with Spanish authorities to take about 1,100,000 boxes in November and December, presumably largely for Christmas consumption in Germany. This early season commitment is expected to be supplemented with additional German purchases later in the season. The British are reported to be in the market for Spanish oranges, but it is expected that Germany will take the bulk of the crop, as in the 1940-41 season. It is stated that Germany is paying 42 percent more this season. Under the contracts, it is usual for 60 percent of the contract price to be paid on delivery of the fruit to the shipping point and the remaining 40 percent on arrival at destination.

SPAIN: Exports of oranges by principal countries, 1935-36, 1939-40, and 1940-41

Country	1935-36	1939-40	1940-41
	1,000 boxes	1,000 boxes	1,000 boxes
United Kingdom	6,580	2,682	332
Germany	5,649	0	9,483
Belgium	1,874	342	0
Netherlands	1,848	586	6
Sweden	444	107	36
Norway	342	243	49
Denmark	167	33	0
France	47	762	472
Switzerland	0	55	212
Others	11,576	1,650	28
Total	28,527	6,460	10,618

Compiled from consular sources. Boxes of 70 pounds.

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CITRUS CROP REDUCED IN CYPRUS . . .

The 1941 orange crop in Cyprus has been preliminarily estimated at 400,000 boxes (of 200 fruits) compared with the estimate of 550,000 boxes in 1940 and an average of 490,000 boxes in the 5-years, 1935-1939, according to information received by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. The lemon production is placed at 40,000 boxes (of 300 fruits) compared with the 1940 production of 53,500 boxes and an average crop of 54,000 boxes in the 5 years, 1935-1939. The reduced crop is due largely to the serious shortage in irrigation water supplies, which was caused by the drought during the winter and spring of 1940-41. The infestation of fruit fly was also reported as heavy.

Exports of oranges during the 1940-41 season amounted to only 14,387 boxes, all of which moved to Egypt and the Sudan. This figure compares with the average export of 297,400 boxes in the 5 years, 1935-36 to 1939-40, and the 3,000 boxes in the preceding 5 years. Lemon exports amounted to only 847 boxes in 1940-41 compared with an average movement of 41,450 boxes in the preceding 5 years. The curtailment in exports was due almost entirely to the war, since practically no shipping facilities are now available to move Cyprus export crops.

CYPRUS: Estimated production and exports of oranges and lemons, 1935-36 to 1941-42

Year	Oranges		Lemons	
	Estimated production	Exports	Estimated production	Exports
	1,000 boxes	1,000 boxes	1,000 boxes	1,000 boxes
1935-36	300	230	35	23
1936-37	500	400	55	49
1937-38	550	403	65	54
1938-39	500	310	60	47
1939-40	600	144	55	34
Average	490	297	54	41
1940-41 a/	550	14	54	1
1941-42 a/	400	-	40	-

Exports reported by consular sources, production estimated by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Oranges in boxes of 200 fruits and lemons in boxes of 300 fruits.
a/ Preliminary.

At present, the citrus industry is dependent upon the domestic market, and local consumption has been enhanced by the presence of troops on the island. Military purchases are expected to assist in marketing the 1941 crop. No Government schemes to aid exports or sales are in effect or are being anticipated.

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EARLY CUBAN TOMATO CROP
TO BE REDUCED IN 1941-42 . . .

The early Cuban tomato crop, which is harvested between November 1 and the middle of January, is expected to be substantially below that of a year earlier, according to a report from American Consul Harold S. Tewell at Habana. In fact, trade sources estimate that the early acreage planted to tomatoes may be as much as 50 percent less than last fall.

Factors contributing to this reduction include the unfavorable results received from the marketing of the tomato crop in 1940-41, due largely to adverse weather conditions, and the uncertainty that prevailed up to a short while ago as to the volume of shipping space that would be available. Thus far this season, growing conditions have not been unfavorable. Some seed beds were destroyed by early rains in September, and the dry weather in October retarded the development of the plants in the fields, but opportune rains and cool bright weather in November have benefitted the maturing crop.

CUBA: Exports of vegetables to the United States, November to October, 1938-39 to 1940-41

Vegetable	1938-39	1939-40	1940-41
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Tomatoes	44,340	77,989	53,760
Eggplant	5,454	6,495	7,169
Peppers	1,852	6,639	8,121
Okra	2,099	1,793	1,668
Lima beans	4,594	7,330	4,146
Cucumbers	2,442	2,515	3,049
Potatoes	834	4,731	18
Others	631	2,457	2,363
Total vegetables	62,246	109,949	80,294

American consulate, Habana.

A small volume of tomatoes matured earlier than usual this year and 28 lugs 1/ were exported in October. Shipments in November will expand considerably (in November last year the volume totaled 43,746 lugs), but the movement will not reach substantial proportions until December. At that time, the recent plans for improving the transportation facilities to New York will go into effect. These plans were necessary because shipping facilities from Habana have been withdrawn over the past 12 months as a result of war conditions.

1/ The Cuban tomato lug averages about 37 pounds net.

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Plants for the late tomato crop, which is harvested after the middle of January, are being set out and a final estimate of acreage is not yet available, but present reports indicate a reduction of about 30 percent below the 1940 acreage. Cuban tomato exports in 1940-41 amounted to around 53,760,000 pounds or approximately 1,500,000 lugs. Of this total, about 500,000 lugs were from the early crop and 1,000,000 from the late.

A slight expansion in pepper acreage has been reported, since pepper exports were successful from a financial point of view last season. Exports last season were exceptionally heavy, being 22 percent above the 1939-40 movement. The acreage planted to lima beans is about the same as that of last year, and the crop is reported to be in good condition.

The estimates for eggplant and okra indicate that acreage is about the same as in 1940. Cucumber plantings, which are largely concentrated on the Isle of Pines, are placed at 500 acres, or 50 acres below the 1940 figure. No reliable data are as yet available on the early Cuban potato crop. The acreage planted to pimentos is estimated at 1,500 acres above the acreage for 1940. The crop will be packed in a recently equipped cannery, and the major proportion of the entire pack, which is placed at around 50,000 cases, is expected to be available for export.

One consequence of the war has been to cause an increase in freight rates on the leading vegetables exported by Cuba. The ocean freight rates from Habana to New York have been raised 5 cents a lug on tomatoes, 5 cents a crate on eggplant, 3 cents a crate on peppers, 9 cents a hamper on lima beans, and 4 cents a crate on okra. The effects on these rates of the war with Japan, and, generally, on the Cuban vegetable export outlook, cannot be anticipated at this time.

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NEW BRUNSWICK SEED POTATO EXPORTS DOWN . . .

Exports of certified seed potatoes from New Brunswick, Canada, from the 1941 crop amounted to 409,527 bushels from July 1 to November 15, compared with a total of 527,437 bushels in the comparable period of 1940, according to a report from American Vice Consul Frederick C. Johnson at Fredericton. The major developments this season include the opening up of the Uruguayan market for Canadian seed stock, 1/ the heavier movement to Cuba, and the substantial decrease in exports to Argentina and the United States.

1/ For earlier report, see Foreign Crops and Markets, November 3, 1941, page 563.

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NEW BRUNSWICK: Exports of certified seed potatoes, July 1 to November 15, 1940 and 1941

Country	1940	1941	Increase (+) or decrease (-)
	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels
Argentina	279,518	100,609	-178,909
Cuba	168,887	202,355	+33,468
Uruguay	0	64,539	+64,539
Venezuela	16,518	21,083	+4,565
South Africa	13,081	6,875	-6,206
United States	48,927	1,904	-47,023
Dominican Republic	0	3,437	+3,437
Jamaica	0	1,443	+1,443
Others	506	7,282	+6,776
Total	527,437	409,527	-117,910

Compiled from consular sources.

UNITED STATES: Imports of seed potatoes from Canada, average 1936-1940, annual 1938-1941

Month	Average 1936-1940	1938	1939	1940	1941
	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels
January	14	6	17	18	41
February	27	10	7	102	43
March	351	356	546	296	239
April	111	62	106	116	131
May	37	28	9	53	34
June	10	2	1	30	1
July	a/	0	0	0	0
August	1	0	0	1	0
September	15	3	4	34	1
October	57	112	53	3	-
November	218	107	483	175	-
December	36	41	76	15	-
Total	877	727	1,302	843	-

Compiled from official records.
a/ Less than 500 bushels.

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SPAIN REGULATES PREPARATION
OF TABLE OLIVES . . .

Regulations covering the preparation of table olives (dressed olives in brine) in Spain were recently announced by the Ministry of Agriculture, according to information received by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. The main purpose of these regulations was to curtail the use of olives with a high oil content as table olives, since they are more suitable for the production of olive oil. As a result, the regulations covering the Southern Provinces of Spain (Andalucia), where the oil content of the olives is low, differs from those established for other Provinces. Not only is Spain the leading supplier of pitted and unpitted olives to the United States, but this measure is of interest in that it undoubtedly reflects the shortage of vegetable-oil supplies in Spain.

These regulations as applied outside of the eight Provinces of Andalucia provide for comprehensive authoritarian control of the preparation of table olives. All operators must apply for permission to work and must give in their application certain information about their businesses that is desired by the Government. These applications are subject to the approval of the Provincial Delegation of the National Syndicate on Olives; contracts for the purchase of fruit to be processed and delivery of processed olives are subject to the same control. A special tax on the sale of processed olives is to be assessed to defray the expenses of the National Syndicate.

The following varieties of olives may be used as table olives in Andalucia: Manzanillas (choice, medium, and common), Gordal, Moron, Rapazalla, and Ojiblanca. Minimum prices for Manzanillas, free from blemishes, of a size no smaller than 320 fruits per kilogram, have been set at 65 pesetas per 50 kilograms or about 5.38 cents per pound; 1/ the minimum price for Gordales of not more than 130 fruits per kilogram has been fixed at 45 pesetas per kilogram or about 3.73 cents per pound. Both these prices represent goods delivered at the buyer's warehouse. No price limits were set on other varieties in Andalucia, or in any other part of Spain for any variety. No control has been placed on the prices of olives in brine within Spain.

Spain is the major supplier of American imports of unpitted olives and supplies practically the entire import of pitted fruit. In 1940, United States imports of unpitted olives were above average, amounting to 3,902,389 gallons, of which Spain supplied nearly 78 percent and Greece 20 percent. Pitted-olive imports were also abnormally heavy, amounting to 3,707,552 gallons or nearly a million gallons above the average for the 1933-1937 period.

1/ Converted at the buying rate of 9.13 United States cents to the peseta.

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UNITED STATES: Imports of unpitted and pitted olives by country, average 1933-1937, annual 1938-1940

Country of origin	Average 1933-1937	1938	1939	1940
	Gallons	Gallons	Gallons	Gallons
UNPITTED				
Spain	2,651,396	2,481,912	2,530,322	3,028,390
Greece	466,911	637,428	650,020	791,435
Italy	113,238	98,217	33,917	59,984
Portugal	5,248	9,862	6,744	10,568
Syria	5,175	12,937	9,880	3,579
Others	14,602	11,047	6,674	8,431
Total	3,256,570	3,251,403	3,237,557	3,902,387
PITTED				
Spain	2,781,934	2,896,598	3,144,717	3,693,034
Others	6,997	2,179	7,794	14,518
Total	2,788,931	2,898,777	3,152,511	3,707,552

Compiled from official records, Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce.

The most recent data on declared exports of Spanish olives, both pitted and unpitted, from Spain are shown in the table below:

SPAIN: Declared exports of olives to the United States from Seville, by months, September 1940 - September 1941

Month	Queens	Manzanillas	Queens and Manzanillas	
			Pitted or stuffed	Unpitted
	Gallons	Gallons	Gallons	Gallons
1940				
September	238,612	185,696	310,448	113,860
October	230,102	179,616	274,576	135,142
November	232,792	121,333	223,649	130,476
December	185,120	95,424	138,576	141,968
1941				
January	297,756	114,820	229,888	182,688
February	464,040	107,968	341,920	230,088
March	481,136	280,572	425,852	335,856
April	523,412	334,000	521,144	336,268
May	514,456	329,876	531,812	312,520
June	249,012	215,040	313,600	150,452
July	164,512	206,384	261,168	109,728
August	223,188	105,504	152,792	172,900
September	42,240	46,848	67,056	22,032

Compiled from consular reports.

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LIVESTOCK AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS

MEXICO CONTINUES LARGE LARD IMPORTS . . .

The hog-feed ratio in Mexico was unfavorable to hog expansion at the beginning of the new marketing year (October 1, 1941), according to information received in the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations from Agricultural Attaché L. D. Mallory. Lard imports have been very large during recent months and are expected to continue at a high level. Mexico comes next to Cuba as the most important market for United States lard in Latin America, and the present high prices of vegetable oils in relation to lard indicate an increased demand in the coming months.

Lard imports in the period October 1940 to May 1941 totaled 17,232,000 pounds, an increase of 82 percent compared with the corresponding period of 1939-40. Corn prices are high relative to hog prices, which makes it more profitable to sell corn and other grains than to convert them into pork and lard, especially considering the poor feed-conversion capacity of Mexican hogs.

The price of live hogs at Mexico City advanced during the 1940-41 marketing year from $7.38 per 100 pounds in October 1940 to $8.20 in September 1941. The price of United States lard in September was $14.26 per 100 pounds compared with $13.88 for domestic lard and $10.53 for local compound. Even with a further rise in the price of lard, demand will continue although at the expense of cutting consumption of other foods. Fats and oils play a large part in the preparation of Mexican food and the demand for lard in Mexico is inelastic, with price variations having little effect on consumption.

MEXICO: Imports of pork products, 1936-37 - 1939-40, October-May 1939-40 and 1940-41

October-September	Lard	Hams	Bacon	Sausage
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
1936-37	4,341	544	107	166
1937-38	7,559	511	77	110
1938-39	6,564	346	58	80
1939-40	17,741	253	60	75
October-May				
1939-40	9,464	197	42	49
1940-41	17,232	198	45	89

Information supplied by Agricultural Attaché L. D. Mallory from official Mexican sources.

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HUNGARIAN FARMERS UNABLE TO FATTEN HOGS . . .

The number of hogs on feed in Hungary in 1941 is believed to have been considerably below average. Shortage and high feed prices in relation to the low established price for pork products prevented farmers from feeding hogs for market. The situation was so bad that in many instances the villages and townships were forced to contract for hogs in advance and provide necessary feed for fattening

Owing to the reluctance of farmers to fatten hogs under present conditions, the countryside abounds with lean, unsalable hogs. In an effort to distribute more evenly the burden of maintaining hog stocks, each agricultural laborer is required by the land and estate owners to fatten one hog by whatever means available.

A decree of April 1 made it obligatory for each owner to report exact hog stocks to local authorities. The number of hogs to be slaughtered in each community is fixed, and no farmer may slaughter either for personal use or sale without a special permit. The number permitted to be slaughtered is 30 percent under average slaughter in the years 1938 to 1940. No permits are granted for the slaughter of lean hogs (under 220 pounds). Hogs for the Budapest market can be sold only to the Hungarian Animal and Animal Products Export Company, which company has the exclusive right of selling hogs for slaughter in the city or for export. Hogs under 220 pounds, intended for fattening, may be purchased without permits, but the sale must be reported. Thus while there is a shortage of pork on the market, farmers are burdened with stocks of hogs which they are forbidden to sell or eat themselves and which they are unwilling or unable to fatten.

It appears therefore that the shortage of lard and other pork products will become acute early this winter. Lard and fat, together with bread, form the staple diet of Hungarian laboring classes. Although there were more hogs reported in the present territory of Hungary in the spring of 1941 as compared with 1940, the increase was due solely to territorial acquisitions.

Hungary has always exported hogs and pork products to Germany and prior to the war supplied relatively small quantities of lard and bacon to the British market. Such statistics are not now published. It is believed that exports of lean, live hogs are continuing at a high level, whereas exports of hog products have decreased. Consumption of pork that was supplied through commercial channels in Hungary in the first 5 months of 1941 amounted to 21 million pounds, or only 40 percent of all commercial meat consumed; beef and veal consumption represented 34 percent; mutton and lamb, 3 percent; poultry, 13 percent; game and fish, 4 percent; and horse meat, 6 percent. In the same period of 1939 the percentages were as follows: Pork 53 percent, beef

and veal 27 percent, mutton and lamb 1 percent, poultry 12 percent, game and fish 4 percent, and horse meat 2 percent of the total consumption.

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DANISH HOG NUMBERS REDUCED AT BEGINNING OF 1941-42 MARKETING YEAR . . .

Danish hog numbers at the beginning of the current marketing year (October 1941) were materially below a year earlier. 1/ The number reported on October 4, 1941, was 2,013,000, or 37 percent smaller than at the beginning of the war. The number of sows bred was only 123,000, a decrease compared with 1940 and a decrease of 51 percent compared with October 1939.

DENMARK: Details of hog estimate for October 4, 1941, with comparisons

Detailed classification	Oct. 9 1937	Oct. 8 1938	Oct. 7 1939	Sept. 4 1940	Oct. 4 1941
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
Boars	19	16	18	14	10
Sows -					
Young bred	43	54	62	23	44
Other bred	130	156	189	120	79
Total bred	173	210	251	148	123
With litters	83	72	81	64	59
Barren	29	25	25	38	24
Condemned	22	14	15	26	18
Total sows	307	321	372	271	224
Suckling pigs	734	642	696	539	494
Slaughter hogs -					
Under 77 pounds	848	706	767	755	524
77 to 132 pounds	663	645	766	665	401
132 pounds and over	513	516	573	497	360
Total slaughter hogs	2,029	1,867	2,106	1,917	1,285
Total hogs	3,089	2,846	3,192	2,741	2,013

Compiled from official sources.

At the time of the outbreak of the European war, hog numbers in Denmark were on the increase and had reached 3,218,000 head by June 1940, which was 7 percent above the number on hand on the corresponding date of 1938.

1/ A late cable reports hog numbers on November 15 at 1,925,000 head, or 24 percent below a year earlier. Bred sows at the same time numbered only 96,000 and were 26 percent smaller.

DENMARK: Number of bred sows and total hogs, hog marketing years 1938-39 to 1940-41

Month	Bred sows				Total hogs			
	1938-39	1939-40	1940-41	1941-42	1938-39	1939-40	1940-41	1941-42
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
October	210	251	a/	123	2,846	3,192	-	2,013
November	214	239	130	96	2,761	3,230	2,528	1,925
December	225	242	128	-	2,706	3,134	2,198	-
January	a/	a/	132	-	a/	a/	1,968	-
February	254	258	a/	-	2,719	3,040	a/	-
March	271	254	138	-	2,724	3,066	1,873	-
April	225	a/	151	-	2,706	a/	1,825	-
May	271	222	161	-	2,754	3,134	1,721	-
June	245	195	-	-	2,997	3,218	a/	-
July	247	a/	163	-	3,133	a/	1,770	-
August	257	167	a/	-	3,164	2,991	1,940	-
September	a/	143	a/	-	a/	2,741	a/	-

Compiled from official sources.
a/ Not available.

In the years immediately preceding the war, Denmark had changed places with the United States as the most important exporter of cured pork products and was our principal competitor in the British market. The scarcity of feedstuffs, brought about by the cutting off of imports since the spring of 1940, has necessitated a substantial reduction in hog numbers in Denmark. The low point of 1,721,000 head was reported as of June 1941. Although there has been a tendency to increase numbers since then, the October 1941 numbers were still 700,000 under those of September 1940, 1/ and more than 1,000,000 head under October 1939 numbers.

Hog slaughter in the marketing year ended in September 1941 was slightly smaller than in 1939-40, with live-hog exports also showing a small decrease from the unusually large exports of almost 600,000 head that year. Bacon exports fell off materially in 1940-41 and were chiefly to Germany instead of to the United Kingdom as formerly.

The number of potential slaughter hogs of various weights totaled 1,285,000 head on October 4, 1941, a decrease of 33 percent below the number on hand in October 1939. Heavy hogs of 132 pounds and over numbered 360,000 head against 563,000 on the corresponding date of 1939; hogs of 77 to 132 pounds, 401,000 against 766,000 in 1939; and hogs under 77 pounds, 524,000 against 767,000. The number of suckling pigs was correspondingly smaller.

1/ There was no October estimate in 1940.

DENMARK: Hog slaughter in export houses, hog marketing years 1939-40 and 1940-41

Month	Hog slaughter		Live-hog exports		Bacon exports	
	1939-40	1940-41	1939-40	1940-41	1939-40	1940-41
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Million pounds	Million pounds
October ...	334	252	13	125	28	15
November ..	377	257	14	56	38	19
December ..	358	300	13	29	37	26
January ...	330	241	10	37	34	23
February ..	255	197	12	30	14	15
March	405	198	13	34	46	21
April	250	229	25	23	26	19
May	329	194	53	23	20	16
June	224	177	38	20	27	16
July	370	163	93	17	36	11
August	192	114	144	14	37	6
September .	241	-	155	-	15	-
Total ...	3,666	a/ 2,322	583	a/ 408	358	a/ 187

Compiled from official sources. a/ 11 months.

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COLOMBIA'S LIVESTOCK INDUSTRY SHOWS POSSIBILITIES . . .

The Colombian livestock estimates for 1941 indicate a marked expansion in cattle numbers, according to recent reports received in the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Future possibilities of the livestock industry are becoming more and more favorable. In the past, the industry has been more of a subsistence character, and it is only recently that attention has been given to its development through improved breeding stock, experiment stations, and improved management methods.

Within the past few months, sizable imports of improved breeding cattle, both dairy and beef, have been obtained from the United States. In the uplands, the European breeds predominate, because they are well adapted to the conditions. In the lowlands, however, mostly the cross-bred, more disease- and pest-resistant cattle, are being used. In this respect, the Zebu (Brahman) cattle imported from the Gulf area of the United States have proved very useful.

Colombia's livestock industry is carried on essentially in two types of areas; namely, the sublowlands and the more temperate uplands. On the lowlands, such as in the Cauca valley, grazing is an activity of

no little importance. Large estancias (ranches) are located here, and excellent pasture, both native and artificial, is in existence. Yet the livestock industry has been retarded in the past by poor transportation, high temperature, disease, insects, frequent droughts, and careless labor.

In the more temperate uplands, the most important of which is the area surrounding Bogotá, the livestock industry is more highly developed. Here, both beef and dairy cattle are raised, and some hides are exported. Hogs are also raised but are of poor breeding, and have been poorly fed and managed in the past. Methods of marketing all types of livestock and livestock products, especially milk, have been poor, the lack of transportation being the greatest handicap.

Despite the potentialities of the livestock industry in Colombia, importation of cattle has averaged about 19,000 head per year, and bacon and lard imports amounted to about 15,569,000 pounds in 1939 and 9,600,000 pounds in 1940. The necessity for imports, however, is gradually being eliminated. The Government is taking a great interest in the improvement of the livestock industry, and large strides have been made in this direction. Experiment stations and stud farms have been created. Blood, cleanliness, and feeding are the fundamentals of Government management, and in conjunction with this development there has been lent to the industry all the aid that the resources of the State have permitted.

It would seem, after surveying available grazing land, that the cattle population could comfortably be expanded to nearly twice its present figure, thus accommodating about 18 million head. If such a condition should be brought to pass, Colombia would become a much more important producer of livestock.

COLOMBIA: Number and approximate values of livestock, 1941

Classification	Number	Value
	1,000 head	1,000 dollars
Cattle	9,325	210.786
Horses	1,000	23,883
Mules	500	16,074
Asses	305	2,565
Hogs	1,600	7,353
Sheep	1,000	2,622
Goats	600	969
Total	14,330	264,252

United States Embassy, Bogota. Converted to United States currency at current rate of exchange (1 peso = $0.57).

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